

March 17th, 2021-Summary Meeting Minutes

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Maricopa County Local Emergency Planning Committee (MCLEPC) was held on March 17th, 2021 virtually via GoToWebinar.

Call Meeting to Order

At 1:02 PM Chair Mike Fusco called the meeting to order. Members and guests were asked to introduce themselves.

Members/Designees Present:

Mike Fusco	Chair
Brian Hickey	City of Mesa Fire Department
Travis Rand	City of Buckeye Fire Department
Wayne Bulsiewicz	Veolia
Brian Gerber	Arizona State University
Jayne Lee	Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Steven Ward	City of Mesa Fire Department
Christopher Healey	Phoenix Fire Department
Ben Davis	Maricopa County Air Quality Department
Jonathan Patneau	Kinder Morgan

LEPC Support Staff

Jesus Haro, LEPC Coord	Maricopa County Emergency Management
Marisa VonHolten, Recording	Maricopa County Emergency Management
Hector Andrade, Observer	Maricopa County Emergency Management

Agenda Items:

Old Business:

- a) Discuss/ Propose/ Vote on Approval of Meeting Minutes:
 - i. Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2020
 - Brian Hickey motioned for approval, seconded by Steve Ward, members approved.

New Business:

- a) Briefing on Phoenix Fire Department Hazmat Program John T. Dean
- i. As Safety Officer, John coordinates the regional Hazmat Class with weekly CEs provided. The region consists of 23 hazmat teams which use automatic aid. Hazmat response functions are scaled and assigned as needed; responsibilities include overseeing mitigation efforts and ensuring appropriate agencies respond. Fire prevention may assist hazmat units through identifying & correcting fire code violations and conducting reporting requirements.
- b) Briefing on Winter Rainfall/Wildfire Outlook NWS Phoenix, Jaret Rogers
- i. Winter Rainfall: La Nina (dry/warm) weather pattern persists with a 60% chance of transition to ENSO neutral in April-June (anticipating above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation). July-September monsoon season is harder to predict.
 - ii. Wildfire Outlooks: Fuels are below normal due to dry weather, however, larger fuels (trees etc.) remain primed due to lack of rain. Hot/dry/windy conditions in spring and early summer expected to create volatile fire conditions, trending towards and earlier start to the fire season.
- c) Discuss National Response Center (NRC) Reports LEPC Coordinator
- i. November 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021:
 - 29 reports submitted; no follow ups needed.
- d) Discuss Needed LEPC Plan Review
- i. Review committee being established; coordinated by Brian Hickey, Kimberly Campbell, and Jesus Haro. The LEPC Plan was last updated in 2016; recommended by MCDEM to review/update procedural processes to reflect current capabilities.
- e) Discuss Needed LEPC Plan Exercise (to be completed 2021)

- i. Exercise planning has been prioritized for 2021 and may be completed concurrently or before the LEPC plan review and update. Brian Hickey recommending tabletop for all members/responding partners to streamline processes/understanding of LEPC capabilities.

Good of the Order:

- Mike Fusco asked if there was anything else to mention, no comments provided.

Call to the Public:

- Mike Fusco asked if anyone from the public had a comment or question, no comments provided.

Adjournment:

- Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 2021 (date TBD), possibly virtual as well.
- Christopher Healy motioned for adjournment, seconded by Brian Hickey, members approved.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:37 PM